

ON AUSTRALIAN COLEOPTERA.

By ARTHUR M. LEA, F.E.S., ENTOMOLOGIST, SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

Part VI.

Fig. 1.

FAMILY TENEBRIONIDAE.

BLAPS GIGAS Linn. var. *AZORICA* Seidl. (1).

NUMEROUS specimens of this African beetle were recently taken at Wallaroo (South Australia) by Mr. E. J. Johnson. It is probable that specimens were brought there (possibly in the larval form) in ballast of wheat ships. The species



Fig. 1. *Blaps gigas* Linn., var. *azorica* Seidl. (life size). Photo, B. Cotton.

is uniformly black, about an inch and a half in length, with a blunt spine at the apex of the suture. On the male only there is a fascicle of reddish spines near the base of the abdomen. In the Junk catalogue several synonyms and varieties of *gigas* are noted.

Egyptian specimens were standing in the Museum as *Blaps sulcata* (a synonym), but Mr. E. Ballard, Chief Plant Pathologist of the Ministry of Agriculture at Cairo, wrote of some Wallaroo specimens sent for identification:

(1) Seidl., Mon., p. 258.

"These specimens have been identified as *Blaps gigas* Linn., var. *azorica* Seidl.

"The type species is widely distributed on both sides of the Mediterranean from Spain to Palestine and the Canary Island, whereas the var. *azorica* has been found at the Azores and in Morocco."

FAMILY CURCULIONIDAE.

The following species all belong to the subfamily Cryptorhynchides. They are mostly small, of retiring habits, and clothed with brownish scales.

DECLAUS MEGAPHOLUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with scales varying from muddy-brown to black, and interspersed with numerous erect or suberect scales or stout setae.

Head with crowded, concealed punctures. Eyes small. Rostrum comparatively short and wide; with coarse, concealed punctures, and a narrow median carina. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base; with large, normally concealed punctures. Elytra not much longer than the median width, which is at about the basal third, base almost truncate, sides strongly rounded; with regular rows of large, round, deep punctures, scarcely indicated through clothing. Two basal segments of abdomen flat in middle, with very large round punctures. Legs short; femora stout, grooved, and edentate. Length, 4 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly longer, and the two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex.

Queensland: Laura (T. G. Sloane).

A short broadly pyriform species, with the erect setae or scales unusually stout. It is about the length of *D. expletus*, but is wider and with very different clothing. Most of the erect setae dilate to the apex, where each is about half as wide as long, on the elytra they are almost confined to the odd interstices, but they are easily disarranged. The punctures on the rostrum are large, but normally concealed on both sexes, they are apparently in four irregular rows, except in front, the median carina is only partly concealed by the clothing. The meso-sternal receptacle is strongly elevated and shaped like a short Y. On two males the antennae are concealed, but one female has the head detached, and the antennae are seen to be inserted on the sides of the rostrum at the basal third.

DECLAUS ABDOMINALIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae reddish. Densely clothed with muddy-brown scales, interspersed with numerous stout erect or suberect setae.

Head with small eyes and normally concealed punctures. Rostrum comparatively short, feebly curved; with irregular rows of coarse, concealed punctures, and with a fine median carina. Antennae inserted slightly nearer base than apex of rostrum, two basal joints of funicle elongate, the others transverse. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of middle; with coarse, crowded punctures, mostly traceable through clothing. Elytra not much wider than long, sides strongly rounded, base truncate; with rows of large, round, deep, partly concealed punctures. Metasternum and abdomen with a wide, shallow depression, common to both; the two basal segments with large concealed punctures. Femora stout, feebly grooved, and edentate. Length, 5 mm.

Queensland: Coen River (W. D. Dodd); unique.

In appearance like a large specimen of the preceding species, but not quite as robust, setae less stout, on the elytra not confined to the odd interstices, and abdominal punctures smaller, etc. It has the wide abdominal depression of the male of *D. auricomus*, but with scales there instead of hairs or thin setae. The punctures on the rostrum are normally concealed, but are indicated by four rows of short setae.

DECLAUS NITIDIROSTRIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae reddish. Densely clothed with muddy-grey scales, varying to sooty.

Head with crowded, concealed punctures. Rostrum shining, comparatively thin, and moderately curved, with a thin and continuous median carina, and with four rows of punctures, becoming coarse towards, and concealed about base. Antennae inserted almost in exact middle of sides of rostrum. Prothorax not much wider than long, sides moderately rounded, apex about half the width of base; with crowded punctures mostly traceable through clothing, and with a short and feeble median ridge. Elytra oblong-ovate, base truncate and no wider than base of prothorax; with regular rows of large, partly concealed punctures, becoming smaller posteriorly. Mesosternal receptacle with almost U-shaped walls, thinner than usual. Abdomen with crowded punctures, about as large as those on prothorax, basal segment depressed in middle. Femora rather stout, grooved, and edentate. Length, 3.0–3.5 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly longer and thinner, punctures smaller and carina shorter and less distinct, antennae inserted slightly nearer its base, and basal segment of abdomen evenly convex.

Victoria: Melbourne in June and July, Oakleigh in July, Preston in June and September (F. E. Wilson), Ocean Grove (H. W. Davey).

In general appearance like small and rather dark specimens of *D. perditus*, but rostrum shining almost to base in both sexes, with much smaller punctures;

on both sexes of *perditus* the rostrum has much coarser and crowded punctures, on this species the punctures are sharply defined. It seems even nearer to *D. expletus*, but on that species the femora are slightly dentate. The upper surface has an obscurely speckled appearance, and is entirely without setae; these being few in number and only on the legs. The specimen from Ocean Grove was previously commented upon ⁽²⁾ as possibly a variety of *perditus*, but in error, as in addition to the thinner walls of its mesosternal receptacle, its rostrum has the small punctures of the female of the present species.

DECILAUUS CURVIROSTRIS sp. nov.

Blackish, antennae and legs reddish. Moderately clothed with scales, varying from stramineous, through brown, almost to black, in addition with numerous short, sloping setae.

Head with crowded, concealed punctures. Rostrum rather stout, more strongly curved than usual, sides incurved to middle and notched at base, with a feeble median carina traceable almost to base; with irregular rows of punctures, concealed on basal half, sharply defined and naked in front. Antennae inserted almost in exact middle of sides of rostrum. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex truncate and about half the width of base; with crowded punctures, in places partly concealed. Elytra rather short, base gently trisinuate, with shoulders feebly clasping prothorax, sides subparallel to about middle; with rows of large, deep, partly concealed punctures. Mesosternal receptacle slightly elevated, briefly U-shaped. Abdomen with crowded punctures, smaller than on prothorax; basal segment flattened in middle. Femora stout, grooved, and very feebly dentate. Length, 4 mm.

New South Wales: Blue Mountains (Dr. E. W. Ferguson); unique.

A dingy species about the size of *D. expletus* and *D. irrasus*, but with looser clothing and more strongly curved rostrum. The pale scales on the upper-surface have a slightly vittate appearance on the prothorax, and a slight fasciate arrangement on the elytra; the setae are numerous, but are distinct only when viewed from the sides. At first glance the elytra appear to have numerous small, shining granules, but this is mostly due to short ridges separating the punctures in the rows.

DECILAUUS MEDIOALBUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with variegated scales and with short, erect setae, in places forming fascicles.

Rostrum moderately short, with coarse, crowded, and mostly concealed punctures, and with a feeble median carina. Antennae inserted almost in middle of sides of rostrum. Prothorax slightly transverse, sides moderately rounded;

⁽²⁾ Lea, Trans. Roy. Soc., S. Aust., 1913, p. 389.

with crowded, concealed punctures. Elytra briefly subcordate, sides strongly rounded; with rows of large, deep punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing, and often quite concealed. Mesosternal receptacle distinctly elevated, emargination semicircular. Under-surface with crowded, mostly concealed punctures; basal segment of abdomen gently depressed in middle. Femora stout, grooved, and scarcely visibly dentate. Length, 2·8–3·0 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum shining, somewhat longer and thinner, with smaller punctures, concealed only near base, antennae inserted slightly nearer base of rostrum and basal segment of abdomen gently convex.

Victoria (Howitt and Blackburn collections): Dandenong Ranges (C. French, sen.), Belgrave in July (C. Oke), in January from leaf debris (F. E. Wilson), Beaconsfield in December under *Eucalyptus* bark, and Fern Tree Gully in March, July, and September (F. E. Wilson).

A specimen of this species was described ⁽³⁾ as possibly representing a variety of *D. noctivagus*, but with eighteen now before me it is evident that it belongs to a distinct although allied species, differing in the softer and more variegated clothing, which forms more distinct fascicles. On several specimens the rostrum is obscurely diluted with red. The clothing varies considerably, being much paler on some specimens than on others. On many (including the types) it is mostly pale on the pronotum, but with some dark spots or vittae at the base; the pronotum has two small fascicles at the apex and four placed transversely slightly nearer the apex than base; on the elytra the clothing is mostly sooty-brown, but there is nearly always a distinct, pale (on some specimens almost white), transverse spot across several interstices near the middle; there are from ten to twelve blackish fascicles on each elytron, on the third, fifth, and seventh interstices, but occasionally one on the fourth. On several specimens the clothing on the upper-surface is but feebly variegated, but the fascicles are usually darker than the adjacent parts, and the median spots on the elytra are usually traceable. On an occasional specimen the pronotum has an almost white median line. On the under-surface and legs (except that the latter usually have a few blackish spots) the clothing is uniformly pale. On specimens with scales completely abraded from the upper-surface, the pronotum is seen to be without a median carina, and the elytral interstices to be slightly thickened or subtuberculate at the positions of the fascicles.

DECHAL'S ALBOHUMERALIS sp. nov.

Black, rostrum obscurely diluted with red, antennae and parts of tibiae and tarsi paler. Densely clothed with variegated scales and setae, the latter forming distinct fascicles.

(3) Lea, Trans. Roy. Soc., S. Aust., 1905, p. 209.

Rostrum moderately wide and gently curved, notched on each side of base; apical half (more along middle) shining, and with crowded and sharply defined but not very large, punctures, and with a shining median line, elsewhere densely clothed. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax strongly transverse, sides rounded and suddenly narrowed near apex; punctures crowded and normally concealed. Elytra rather short, subcordate, base almost truncate, sides strongly rounded and widest at about basal third, margins narrowly polished; with rows of large, partly concealed punctures, interstices tuberculate beneath fascicles. Under-surface with concealed punctures. Basal segment of abdomen flat in middle, its middle encroaching on second, which is very short in middle, fifth rather strongly convex, third and fourth depressed. Femora stout and (especially the hind ones) distinctly grooved and edentate; tibiae thin. Length, 2.5 mm.

Victoria; Belgrave, in August, in moss.

At first glance differing only in clothing from the preceding species, but the mesosternal receptacle is U-shaped, with thin walls scarcely elevated above the adjacent surface and almost open; whereas on that species (as on *D. noctivagus*) the receptacle is distinctly elevated, and with a stout base; the present species also has the third and fourth abdominal segments depressed below the adjacent ones (the insect viewed on its back). On the type the clothing on the head, sides of prothorax, shoulders and parts of under-surface, and of legs is pale, almost white, elsewhere it varies from rusty-brown to black. There are six fascicles on the pronotum: two at apex and four forming a submedian row, of which the inner ones are long, and composed of black setae; on each elytron there are about ten fascicles, mostly on the odd interstices, with the central setae black and the outer ones rusty-brown, the largest is on the third interstice crowning the apical slope. The type is probably a male. On a second specimen, apparently a female, the clothing is mostly darker, but the pale humeral spots are quite distinct, its basal segment of abdomen is convex, and does not encroach on the second, but the rostrum and antennae are much the same.

DECILAUS PARVIDENS sp. nov.

♂ Piccons-brown, antennae and tarsi paler. Densely clothed with slightly variegated scales, and with numerous setae, in places forming fascicles.

Rostrum moderately short and almost straight, apical half shining and with dense and rather small punctures, basal half densely squamose. Antennae inserted not quite as close to apex as to base. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex not half the width of base; punctures faintly indicated through clothing. Scutellum minute but fairly distinct. Elytra not much wider than prothorax, almost parallel-sided to beyond the middle, base truncate;

with regular rows of large, partly concealed punctures; third interstee distinctly elevated above the others. Abdomen with rather dense but not large punctures, second segment in middle as long as first, third and fourth on an even slope with the adjacent ones. Femora moderately long, grooved, and finely dentate, the hind ones more strongly than the others. Length, 3.5 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum distinctly longer and thinner, with smaller punctures and less of the base clothed, and antennae inserted two-fifths from base of rostrum.

Queensland: Bunya Mountains in December (H. Haeker). Type, in Queensland Museum; cotype, in South Australian Museum.

A comparatively elongate species. The metasternal episterna are very narrow in the middle but are subtriangularly dilated at each end, although the clothing is apt to obscure their outlines. In this, as in some other features, it resembles *D. acerosus*, but the third interstee is more elevated and more distinctly fasciculate, the prothoracic setae are different, and the femora dentate. The scales on the upper-surface of the type are mostly of a rather dark brown, obscurely mottled with paler ones on the elytra. On its pronotum there are four feeble fascicles of dark setae across the middle, the setae at the apex are numerous but do not form fascicles; on the elytra they are fairly numerous on the odd interstices, and on the third form two loose fascicles; one at the basal fourth, the other crowning the apical slope; setae are numerous on the legs. On other specimens the scales are mostly paler, on one of them of an almost uniform pale muddy-grey, but the fascicles are in the same positions. The sexes scarcely differ in the convexity of the abdomen, but are very distinct by the length and clothing of the rostrum.

DECILAUS NIGROHUMERALIS sp. nov.

Blackish, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with rusty-brown and black scales, becoming pale on under parts; in addition with numerous long, erect setae on apical half of elytra, becoming shorter towards base and on prothorax.

Rostrum about the length of prothorax, moderately curved, basal third squamose, elsewhere naked and with rather dense, small punctures. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from base of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides rather strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base, punctures crowded and slightly traceable through clothing. Elytra rather short, sides strongly rounded, base almost truncate; with regular rows of large punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing. Mesosternal receptacle slightly elevated, rather briefly U-shaped. Abdomen with fairly dense, partly concealed

punctures, two basal segments evenly convex, and almost equal along middle. Femora moderately long, scarcely grooved, and edentate. Length, 2.8 mm.

Norfolk Island (A. M. Lea); unique.

Close to *D. hystricosus*, from New South Wales, but elytral setae longer, and each shoulder with a patch of black scales. The setae on the apical half of the elytra are almost as long as on *D. hispidus* (from Western Australia), but on the basal half and on the pronotum they are decidedly shorter. The scales on the upper-surface are mostly of a rusty-brown colour, obscurely mottled with black, but each shoulder has a large black patch. The setae are almost evenly distributed on the pronotum, but are congested in four feeble patches across the middle, although hardly forming fascicles; the long setae on the elytra are in an almost regular row on each interstee, but on the second, about middle, there is a feeble fascicle, and another on the third near base. The type appears to be a female.

DECILAEUS EPISTERNALES sp. nov.

Piceous-brown, legs and antennae paler. Densely clothed with soft, variegated scales.

Rostrum moderately wide, slightly shorter than prothorax, sides gently incurved to middle, with a shining median line; apical half shining and with crowded punctures, elsewhere squamose. Antennae inserted almost in middle of sides of rostrum. Prothorax almost as long as wide, sides strongly rounded, punctures dense and normally concealed. Elytra short, subcordate, sides strongly rounded beyond basal third, rapidly narrowed to apex, base truncate, except that shoulders slightly clasp prothorax; with rows of large partly concealed punctures; suture glabrous on basal third, sides glabrous to near apex, and slightly thickened about shoulders. Under-surface with crowded, partly concealed punctures; each metasternal episternum appearing as a thin, stramineous line; two basal segments of abdomen flattened in middle. Femora stout, grooved, and edentate. Length, 2.5 mm.

Victoria: Lorne, in October, from moss (F. E. Wilson); unique.

Close to *D. bryophilus*, but without the two conspicuous rows of snowy scales on the apical half of suture of that species, and the tibiae wider at base. From *D. albonotatus* it differs in clothing and in the episterna; each of the latter appears as a thin clothed line, with the individual scales not distinct. The scales are mostly of a stramineous-brown, varying almost to white and to dark brown; on the pronotum the scales are larger than on the other parts, and very few of them are dark; on the elytra there are two fairly large, dark patches at the base, and the apical half is irregularly mottled; each of the seriate punctures on the elytra contains a seta, and there is a small cluster of suberect ones on each shoulder; on the legs the clothing is uniformly pale, but not white, the tibiae

appear to be dilated at the base, but this is entirely due to the clothing there being longer than in front. The type is probably a male.

On this and the three following species the elytral margins are glabrous, as on *D. suturalis*, *lateralis*, and *albopunctatus* from Tasmania, and the episterna are distinctively clothed.

DECILAUS TRIANGULIFER sp. nov.

♂ Dark reddish-brown, some parts paler. Moderately clothed with more or less rusty-brown scales (setae on the prothorax) variegated with whitish ones.

Head with dense, concealed punctures in front, bald elsewhere. Rostrum about the length of prothorax, moderately curved, sides feebly incurved to middle, notched on each side of base; with dense, naked punctures on apical fourth, concealed by scales elsewhere. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax almost as long as wide, sides strongly rounded on basal two-thirds, apical third narrower; densely granulate-punctate. Elytra subeordate, sides strongly rounded on basal half, and much wider than prothorax, thence strongly narrowed to apex; with regular rows of large punctures, in deep striae, partly concealed by clothing; margins narrowly polished. Under-surface with crowded punctures; metasternum and basal segment of abdomen conjointly shallowly concave. Femora stout, especially the front ones, and edentate; tibiae rather thin. Length, 2 mm.

Victoria: Belgrave in January, and Healesville in March (F. E. Wilson).

Allied to *D. albopunctatus* and *ruficornis*, from the latter distinguished by the darker club, and from the former by the sparser scales, amongst which are distributed sloping setae: each metasternal episternum also appears as an elongated, rusty-brown triangle, instead of a parallelogram, and its clothing is very dense, but so fine that the individual scales are not apparent. Each lateral margin of the elytra is glabrous, but it is not distinctly thickened as on *D. albopunctatus*, *lateralis*, and *suturalis*. It is about the size and somewhat the appearance of *D. nigronotatus* and *nigriclavus*, but the episterna are very different. With the rostrum resting in the pectoral canal the base of the head is exposed, and is seen to be bald, but when the insect is "set," with the rostrum extended, the bald part is concealed. Most specimens are of a dark brown colour, the elytra, antennae (club excepted), and tarsi paler, but some have the prothorax and under-surface almost black, on others the legs and elytra are uniformly reddish, and on two specimens each elytron has a large, obscurely dark spot about the middle. The clothing on some specimens is but slightly variegated, but on several of them there are obscurely whitish spots on the elytra, usually margining the darker parts; on the pronotum also the whitish setae are almost as numerous as the darker ones. The setae on the elytra are sparse and curved,

and are rather distinct on the shoulders as viewed from the sides. Some specimens have less of the rostrum clothed, and the abdomen scarcely concave, and are probably females.

DECHLAUS SEMICALVICEPS sp. nov.

Blackish-brown, antennae and legs paler. Moderately clothed with rusty-brown scales and setae, mixed with whitish spots about middle of elytra and sides of prothorax, metasternal episterna densely clothed with fawn-coloured scales, basal half of head bald.

Rostrum feebly curved and about length of prothorax, notched on each side of base; with crowded and rather coarse punctures, subseriate in arrangement in front, concealed near base. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax somewhat shorter, but otherwise with outlines and punctures as on preceding species. Elytra shorter and with more concealed punctures, but otherwise as on preceding species. Under-surface with fairly coarse punctures; two basal segments of abdomen gently and evenly convex. Femora stout, edentate, widely and shallowly grooved; tibiae rather thin. Length, 2.5 mm.

Victoria: Belgrave, in January and March (P. E. Wilson).

The club is darker than the rest of the antennae, although not by much; on *D. albonotatus* the club is darker, and the episterna are narrow and parallel-sided. There are some white scales on the suture, as on *D. bryophilus*, but the clothing of the episterna is very different. It is near the preceding species, and with clothing of the episterna similar, but continued inwards, so that it forms larger triangles; it is also larger than that species, and there is a vitta of whitish scales on each side of the prothorax, and the elytra are shorter in proportion, with punctures more obscured by clothing. The base of the head is bald, but is concealed when the insect is "set." There is an obscure median carina on the rostrum. The sides of the elytra are slightly thickened near the base, but are not conspicuously polished. As the abdomen is gently convex on both specimens they are probably females.

DECHLAUS LINEIFER sp. nov.

Black, tarsi obscurely reddish, antennae paler. Moderately clothed with rusty-brown scales and setae.

Rostrum moderately wide and slightly curved, slightly shorter than prothorax, basal fourth with crowded, partly concealed punctures, then with punctures in four almost regular rows to apical fourth, on which they are small and irregular. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded,

much narrower at apex than at base; densely granulate-punctate. Elytra briefly subcordate, sides strongly rounded and widest at basal fourth; with rows of large, deep punctures, mostly wider than interstices; margins narrowly glabrous but not shining. Under-surface with rather coarse punctures. Femora stout, tibiae thin, angular near the outer base. Length, 2.25 mm.

Victoria: Fern Tree Gully, in moss, in April and July (P. E. Wilson).

The rusty clothing of the elytra (mostly setae) appears to form three feeble fasciae at about the summit of the apical slope, and remnants of fasciae elsewhere; each metasternal episternum appears as a narrow, fawn-coloured line of clothing, of the same nature as on the two preceding species, but on those species each episternal patch is triangular. Structurally it is also close to *D. striatus* and *subfasciculatus*, but the episterna are narrower and densely clothed. The antennae are almost flavous. On the type the two basal segments of abdomen are flattened in the middle, on a second specimen they are gently convex, but as the sculpture and clothing of the rostrum are similar, they are probably both females.

DEGLAUS RUFICORNIS sp. nov.

Blackish-brown, antennae and parts of legs paler. Moderately clothed with greyish or rusty scales and setae, becoming whitish on under parts.

Rostrum moderately wide, lightly curved and slightly shorter than prothorax; with crowded punctures and a fine median carina, but sculpture concealed by clothing about base. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax about as long as wide, sides rather strongly rounded, apex about two-thirds the width of base, densely granulate-punctate. Elytra subcordate, base truncate and no wider than base of prothorax, sides strongly rounded and widest at about basal third; with rows of large, deep, partly concealed punctures, the outer interstices shining and glabrous. Femora stout, shallowly grooved, and edentate; tibiae thin. Length, 2.0–2.2 mm.

Tasmania: Waratah, in moss (A. M. Lea).

Near *D. albonotatus*, the type of which was also from moss at Waratah, but darker and with less variegated clothing, and club no darker than other parts of antennae. The clothing varies on the two specimens taken, and I should probably have considered them as belonging to that species, but the club is distinctly black on the type of that species, and on the present one no darker than the rest of the antennae. On *D. lateralis* the thickened margin is so stout that it is visible from above; its prothorax also is trivittate. *D. saturalis* is a larger and darker species, with more numerous setae, and elytra more strongly narrowed beyond the middle. It is fairly close to *D. episternalis*, but smaller, and episterna not specially clothed, as on that species. The elytral interstices are fairly wide

and conjointly convex; on the preceding species they are separately convex. On the type the tibiae and tarsi are paler than the rest of the legs, but darker than the antennae; on the smaller specimen the legs and elytra are about as pale as the tibiae of the type, on both the base of the head (which would be normally concealed when the rostrum is extended) is of a dull red colour and bald. On the elytra the clothing is mostly of a pale rusty-brown colour, obscurely variegated with small, ill-defined, whitish spots; on the prothorax the clothing is distinctly setose in character; on the smaller specimen the clothing generally is paler and less variegated, and the prothoracic setae are smaller and denser. As the two basal segments of abdomen are gently convex, on both specimens, they are probably females.

On this and the two following species the sides of the elytra are thickened, and somewhat as on the four preceding species, but the metasternal episterna are without special clothing.

DECILAIUS SUBFASCICULATUS sp. nov.

Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Clothed with rusty-brown and greyish scales and setae.

Rostrum feebly curved, slightly shorter than prothorax, basal fourth clothed, elsewhere with dense and rather coarse, naked punctures, becoming smaller in front. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base; densely granulate-punctate. Elytra briefly subcordate, base truncate and very slightly wider than prothorax, sides strongly rounded and widest slightly before middle; with rows of large, deep punctures; interstices rather narrow and strongly convex, feebly thickened beneath fascicles. Two basal segments of abdomen gently convex. Femora stout, edentate, and shallowly grooved, tibiae rather thin, angularly dilated near outer base. Length, 2.5-2.6 mm.

Victoria: Belgrave, in moss, in April and August (F. E. Wilson).

A distinct species, allied to *D. striatus*, but slightly larger and with numerous subtubercular swellings of the elytral interstices. The metasternal episterna are opaque, parallel-sided, and slightly elevated, but are glabrous; this at once distinguishes the species from *D. lineifer*, which has similar general clothing. The elytral clothing is condensed to form numerous feeble fascicles, which are in three distinct transverse series at and about the summit of the apical slope, and irregular elsewhere; each fascicle is supported by a feeble tubercular swelling; on the under parts the setae are mostly whitish. The rostrum is rather strongly dilated to the base, each side of which is notched. Three specimens were taken, all apparently females.

DECILAUS ERYTHROPHIOLUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with rusty-red scales and setae, slightly variegated on the elytra, and not much paler on the under than on the upper-surface.

Rostrum gently curved, shorter than prothorax, sides incurved to middle and notched at base; with coarse (and apparently seriate) concealed punctures, but naked and smaller about apex. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides strongly rounded; with crowded, partly concealed punctures. Elytra briefly subcordate, sides strongly rounded, base truncate, except that shoulders slightly clasp base of prothorax, with rows of large, partly concealed, setiferous punctures; margins narrowly glabrous but opaque. Two basal segments of abdomen large and feebly depressed in middle. Femora stout, rather widely grooved, and edentate. Length, 2.8–3.0 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum longer, thinner, less curved, clothed only near base, with smaller punctures, antennae inserted not quite as close to apex, two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex, and femora somewhat thinner.

Victoria: Ringwood, in September (C. Oke).

A rusty-looking species not very close to any previously described one. Each metasternal episternum is narrow, and appears as a thin grey line, but there is a row of punctures between it and the narrowly nude elytral margin. On the male there are numerous small, dark spots on the elytra, but on the female they are less evident; the elytral setae are fairly long, curved, and very distinct from the sides; they are numerous on the legs, and cause the tibiae to have an appearance as if angularly dilated near the base.

DECILAUS WILSONI sp. nov.

♀ Black, legs obscurely reddish, antennae and tarsi paler. Moderately clothed with rusty-red setae, becoming greyish on under parts.

Rostrum feebly curved, almost the length of prothorax, sides dilated to and notched at base, near base clothed, elsewhere glabrous and with fairly coarse punctures, apex shining and with small ones. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about two-thirds the width of base; densely granulate-punctate. Elytra subcordate, sides strongly rounded, base slightly produced in middle, incurved between produced part and sides; with rows of large, deep, partly concealed punctures; interstices separately strongly convex, slightly thickened in parts about summit of apical slope. Two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex and with coarse punctures. Femora rather stout, grooved, and edentate; tibiae angulate near outer base. Length, 2.0–2.2 mm.

Victoria: Belgrave, in January, from moss; Healesville, in March, from moss (F. E. Wilson).

The narrow elytral margins are practically glabrous, but not conspicuously so, as on the seven preceding species. It is close to *D. lineifer* in general appearance, but is without the special clothing on the metasternal episterna of that species. The reddish clothing on four of the specimens is of the same shade as on *D. erythropholus*, but is more setose in character. It is wider in proportion than *D. striatus*; and smaller than *D. subfasciculatus*, with the tibiae different at base. On the type the setae on the prothorax are evenly distributed, but on the elytra they are subfasciculate and subfasciate at and about the summit of the apical slope, although less distinctly so than on *D. subfasciculatus*; the transverse arrangement is more distinct from the sides than from above. On another female, from Belgrave, the elytral clothing is almost uniformly distributed, although slightly more irregular about the summit of the apical slope than elsewhere. It is probably immature, as parts of the upper-surface and almost the whole of the under parts are reddish. A female from Millgrove, is more sparsely clothed than the others, and the setae are greyish or white; the subfasciate arrangement about the summit of the apical slope is fairly evident, and owing to its sparseness the slight thickenings of the interstices are more evident. A male, taken at Warburton in February by Mr. Wilson, from fallen leaves, probably belongs to this species, but is too dirty to be made into a type; its clothing is almost uniformly grey, the elytra are wider than on the type, gently undulated in parts, the punctures almost entirely concealed by mud, and those of the prothorax entirely concealed. The rostrum is shorter than on the female, clothed to near the apex, and the metasternum and basal segment of abdomen are conjointly shallowly concave.

An interesting species. That I am able to name as new ten species of this genus, all taken by Mr. Wilson from moss or fallen leaves in Victoria alone, indicates how much is to be done by this patient method of collecting.

DECHLAUS ERYTHROMELAS sp. nov.

♂ Reddish, sides of prothorax and parts of elytra black, club deeply infuscated. Sparsely clothed with short, pale, rusty-grey scales or setae.

Rostrum feebly curved, slightly shorter than prothorax; with coarse, crowded punctures almost to apex, which is shining and with smaller ones. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base; with rather coarse, crowded punctures. Elytra subcordate, base truncate and very little wider than base of prothorax, sides strongly rounded and widest slightly before

middle; with rows of large, deep punctures; interstices rather narrow and strongly convex. Two basal segments of abdomen feebly depressed in middle, and with crowded punctures. Femora moderately stout and grooved, the front ones slightly but acutely dentate, tibiae subangulate near outer base. Length, 1.8 mm.

Victoria: Belgrave, from fallen leaves, in June (F. E. Wilson); unique.

A minute, aberrant species, apparently allied to *D. calvicaps*, which also has front femora armed, but smaller, black parts of elytra differently placed, and no part of upper-surface densely clothed; the head has been forced back, concealing its base, so I am unable to see if that part is bald. In some respects it approaches *D. levirigatus*, but is narrower and without the long hairs of that species. Structurally it is close to *D. nigriclavus*, but the black markings on the elytra are more extended, they occupy much of the sides, and are all irregularly connected, leaving the scutellar region, the tips, and much of the middle reddish. In general it is like a small, sparsely clothed specimen of *D. nigronotatus*, but on that species the front femora are unarmed.

DECHIAUS MOLLIS Lea.

Two specimens taken at Belgrave (Victoria), in August, from leaf debris, by Mr. Wilson, are more brightly coloured than the types, each elytron having a conspicuous white semicircle commencing on the shoulder, and ending on the suture near the subbasal black fascicle, so that, from above, the elytra appear to have a distinct white figure 3. They have also more upright white setae than the types.

EXITIUS MURINUS sp. nov.

♀ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with mouse-coloured scales, interspersed with short, erect setae, on the upper parts mostly black and condensed to form fascicles.

Head with forehead bald and sinuous in front. Eyes moderately large. Rostrum almost the length of prothorax, somewhat dilated at base, basal fourth densely squamose, elsewhere shining and with distinct punctures, small in front of antennae, coarser behind them. Antennae inserted slightly nearer base than apex of rostrum, scape scarcely more than half the length of funicle and club combined. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded; with crowded, normally concealed punctures. Scutellum small but distinct. Elytra elliptic-ovate, sides rather strongly rounded, base trisinnate and scarcely wider than base of prothorax; with rows of large, deep, partly concealed punctures; the odd interstices with slight tubercles supporting fascicles. Two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex, with crowded punctures. Legs moderately long, femora feebly grooved and edentate. Length, 5 mm.

Tasmania: Cradle Mountain, in January (A. M. Lea); unique.

In general appearance like some specimens of *Tapinocis corticalis*, but the forehead is distinctly sinuous. Structurally close to *E. conspiciendus*, but with the patch on the apical slope of that species much less conspicuous and of a dingier colour, the suture with a velvety patch in middle and another near apex, and the femora truly edentate. In the 1913 table of the genus ⁽¹⁾ the small but distinct scutellum (which is clothed with rusty scales) and edentate femora, would associate the species with *E. occidentalis*, which is a smaller species, almost without fascicles. There are six small loose fascicles on the prothorax: two at apex and four forming a transverse row somewhat nearer the apex than base; on the elytra there are two dark fascicles on the suture, two on the third interstice on each elytron (the second one crowning the apical slope is dark in front and grey behind), three on the fifth, and three or four on the seventh, with a few less distinct ones elsewhere. On the pronotum there is a small glabrous central spot, but as it is finely punctate it may be squamose on fresh specimens.

EXITIUS EDENTATUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish, parts of elytra obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with dark greyish-brown scales, interspersed with numerous short, clavate setae, mostly black.

Head glabrous only at extreme base (normally concealed by prothorax). Eyes rather small. Rostrum slightly curved, not quite the length of prothorax, densely clothed almost to tip. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about two-thirds the width of base; with crowded, concealed punctures. Scutellum absent. Elytra elliptic-ovate, sides moderately rounded, base feebly trisinate; with rows of large, deep punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing. Two basal segments of abdomen large, with crowded, concealed punctures and a shallow median depression. Femora moderately long, edentate, and scarcely grooved. Length, 4.5 mm.

New South Wales: Mount Kosciuszko, 5,000 feet (Dr. E. W. Ferguson); unique.

In the 1913 table of the genus could be associated with *E. tricarinatus*, which is a shorter and more robust species, with darker clothing. The mesosternal receptacle is suddenly elevated as on *E. loculosus*, *simulator*, and *fumosus*. It has the general appearance of *E. cyclothyreus* (now referred to *Ophrythyreocis*), but without the conspicuous scutellum of that species; and is slightly more compact than *E. stenocerus*, with the same dark, rusty-brown appearance, but

⁽¹⁾ Lea, Trans. Roy. Soc., S. Aust., 1913, p. 404.

antennae shorter. The upper-surface has a spotted appearance, owing to the dark setae being compacted to form feeble fascicles; of these there are six on the prothorax in the usual positions; on the elytra they are mostly placed in oblique series, of which there are two fairly distinct ones on each elytron, the first commencing near the shoulder and ending on the second interstee near the middle, and the second a short distance behind it. The clothing is so dense that the derm is normally concealed, but where some of the scales have been removed the elytra are seen to be of a dull red.

EXITHIUS SEMICALVICEPS sp. nov.

♀ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with muddy-grey scales, interspersed with setae.

Head with basal half bald and shining, the forehead sinuous in front, and with a short ridge continued to half-way between the eyes; these rather small. Rostrum moderately wide and slightly curved, basal third squamose, with a distinct median carina and two less distinct ones traceable through clothing, elsewhere shining and with small punctures. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum, scape slightly longer than funicle. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base, surface uneven and with crowded, concealed punctures. Scutellum absent. Elytra distinctly wider than prothorax, shoulders rounded, sides thence parallel to about the middle, and then coarctate to apex, base rather strongly trisinuate; with rows of large, deep punctures, almost concealed by clothing, and with a few small, shining granules on suture. Two basal segments of abdomen large and convex, with small, concealed punctures, but a curved row of large ones near base. Femora rather long and distinctly grooved, tibiae rather thin. Length, 4 mm.

New South Wales: Ourimbah (Dr. E. W. Ferguson); unique.

With outlines much as on *E. conjunctus*, but suture without the conjoined fascicles of that species and clothing different. The rostrum is tricarinate, but not as in *E. tricarinatus* (with which it could be associated in the 1913 table of the genus), and the general outlines, etc., are very different. Where some of the scales have been removed parts of the under-surface are seen to be obscurely reddish. The setae on the upper-surface are mostly pale; they are longer and more erect on the elytra than on the prothorax; on the former there is a small black fascicle on the third interstee, at the summit of the apical slope, but the slight inequalities of the elytra are usually masked by the clothing. There is a feeble swelling of the ridge margining the groove on each femur at the normal position of a tooth, but the femora could not fairly be regarded as dentate.

EXITHIUS BIDENTATUS sp. nov.

♀ Black, antennae and tarsi otherwise reddish. Densely clothed with dark rusty-brown scales and setae, on the upper-surface slightly variegated with darker ones; with obtuse fascicles.

Head densely clothed except at extreme base. Eyes rather large. Rostrum moderately long and curved, sides gently incurved to middle, densely squamose near base, elsewhere shining and with crowded and moderately coarse punctures, becoming smaller in front. Antennae inserted slightly nearer apex than base of rostrum, funicle the length of scape, two basal joints of the latter elongate. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex scarcely half the width of base; with dense, normally concealed punctures. Scutellum distinct. Elytra parallel-sided to beyond the middle, base truncate, except that the shoulders slightly clasp the prothorax, apex distinctly notched; with rows of large, deep punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing, or quite concealed. Two basal segments of abdomen large, with dense, normally concealed punctures. Femora stout, strongly and acutely dentate, the front ones each with a small supplementary tooth in the notch; tibiae with outer edge gently arched. Length, 6.5–7.5 mm.

Victoria: Warburton, in January and April (F. E. Wilson).

In general appearance near *E. fumatus*, but elytra notched at apex, with conspicuous preapical callosities, and upper edge of tibiae outwardly curved, instead of gently incurved to middle. In the 1913 table of the genus it could be associated with *E. cyclothyrens*, but from that species, as from all others of the genus, it may be distinguished by the supplementary tooth on the front femora; this is more conspicuous on some specimens than on others, but is sufficiently distinct on all. On the prothorax six very feeble fascicles may be traced in the usual positions; on the elytra the fascicles are few in number, obtuse, and sometimes blackish, except that those crowning the preapical callosities are distinct. The rostrum has a shining median ridge, but it is inconspicuous on most of the specimens. A specimen from the Howitt collection in the National Museum (unfortunately without a locality label) is evidently a male of the species; it differs from the type and three other females in having the rostrum slightly shorter and wider, clothed to antennae, with coarser punctures and basal segment of abdomen flat in middle of base; the second, however, is quite as convex as on the females.

EXITHIUS SQUAMOSIS sp. nov.

Black, antennae and tarsi dull reddish. Densely clothed with soft and rather pale brown, slightly variegated scales, mixed with setae, the latter also forming fascicles.

Head densely squamose except on the normally concealed base. Rostrum comparatively wide and dilated at base, slightly shorter than prothorax, basal third densely squamose, elsewhere slightly shining and with fairly dense punctures, smaller along middle than elsewhere. Antennae inserted almost in exact middle of sides of rostrum, scape distinctly shorter than funicle, two basal joints of the latter elongate. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides gently dilated from base to two-fifths from apex, and then strongly narrowed; with dense, concealed punctures. Scutellum absent. Elytra at base not as wide as widest part of prothorax, sides gently rounded to beyond the middle, base moderately incurved near each side for reception of hind angle of prothorax; with rows of large, setiferous punctures, more or less concealed by clothing; interstices tuberculate beneath fascicles. Two basal segments of abdomen large, gently convex; with dense, normally concealed punctures. Femora stout, moderately grooved, and feebly dentate. Length, 4.3-4.6 mm.

Queensland: National Park, in December. Type, in Queensland Museum; co-type, in South Australian Museum.

An aberrant species of the genus, but at present it does not appear desirable to propose a new one for its reception. In a table of some of the allies of *Poropterus* (5) it could be associated with *Hoplodretilus*, but in *H. marmoratus* the shoulders are completely rounded off, and the clothing is thin and sparse. In many of its characters it approaches *Brachyporopterus* and *Bacodontocis*, but it is still more aberrant from them than from *Erithus*. In colour and general appearance it approaches *E. megapholus* and *ferrugineus*, but the prothoracic scales, although large, are much smaller than on the former species, and the latter has shoulders conspicuously produced. The femoral teeth are almost concealed by the clothing, but on close examination are sufficiently distinct; the front tibiae are feebly incurved on their outer edge, the others are arched there, with their apparent width exaggerated by the clothing. The two largest tubercles on each elytron are on the third interstice, one near the base, the other crowning the apical slope, but as the subbasal one is slightly the larger, the species, in the 1913 table of the genus, could be associated with *E. lencosus*, which is a shorter insect, with much darker clothing. The variegation of the scales is more pronounced on the apical slope than elsewhere, some of the scales there being almost black, and some of the stout setae being paler than the scales amongst which they are placed. There are six fairly large but obtuse fascicles on the pronotum, in the usual positions; on the elytra the fascicles are fairly numerous, but sparser on the odd than on the even interstices, the stout setae that are present on most of them appear more like erect scales than true setae. The scales on the abdomen

(5) Lea, Proc. Linn. Soc., N.S.W., 1913, p. 454.

and sides of prothorax are larger than elsewhere. Seen from the sides the surface of the elytra appears very uneven. The two specimens taken appear to be females.

EXITIUS PARVIDENS sp. nov.

Black, antennae and tarsi obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with variegated scales, and short, erect setae.

Head densely clothed except at extreme base (normally concealed by the prothorax). Rostrum comparatively short and wide, basal third densely squamose, elsewhere somewhat shining, and with fairly coarse, crowded punctures. Antennae inserted slightly nearer base than apex of rostrum, scape distinctly shorter than funicle. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex not half the width of base; with crowded, concealed punctures. Scutellum absent. Elytra rather wide, sides moderately rounded and widest about middle, base almost truncate except for scutellar notch; with rows of large, deep punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing; interstices slightly tuberculate beneath fascicles, the second, fourth, and sixth slightly dilated at summit of apical slope. Two basal segments of abdomen large, with crowded punctures, the first flattened in middle. Femora stout, feebly grooved, and feebly dentate. Length, 4.5 mm.

New South Wales: Eccleston (J. Hopson); unique.

In the 1913 table of the genus could be associated with *E. loculosus*, from which it differs in the more variegated clothing, with less conspicuous fascicles and shorter antennae. The oblique patch of white is suggestive of *E. obliquus*, but the type of that species is decidedly narrower, with the trisimulation of the base of elytra much more pronounced and the small fascicles more numerous. Each femoral tooth is but a slight elevation of the ridge bounding the groove, rather than a distinct isolated one, and it is visible only on close examination. Most of the scales are of rather dark rusty-brown, becoming somewhat paler on the under parts; on the pronotum, the scales and setae (including six feeble fascicles in the usual positions) are mostly dark, but there is an ill-defined median patch of paler scales; on the elytra there is a V-shaped patch of almost white scales, extending from the middle of the suture towards the shoulders, but not reaching them; behind the white scales there are black ones, also obliquely placed, and some more black ones towards the apex; there are about seven blackish fascicles on each elytron, of which the longest is on the third interstice; there are also some brown ones. The type is probably a male.

EXITIUS MICRIPS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with dark brown, feebly variegated scales and setae.

Head glabrous and with crowded punctures on basal half, forehead slightly sinuous in front. Eyes small. Rostrum the length of prothorax, moderately curved, with three ridges on basal half distinctly traceable through clothing, elsewhere with naked punctures. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax almost twice as wide as long, sides strongly rounded; with crowded, concealed punctures, and a short and feeble median ridge. Scutellum absent. Elytra slightly wider than prothorax at base, which is rather strongly trisinuate, sides gently rounded to beyond the middle; with rows of large, deep punctures, appearing small through clothing; with distinct, shining granules on each side of suture on basal half. Two basal segments of abdomen large, with comparatively small, concealed punctures, except for a curved row of large ones near base; first segment flat in middle. Femora stout, distinctly grooved, and feebly dentate. Length, 5.5 mm.

New South Wales: Mount Kosciuszko (Dr. E. W. Ferguson); unique.

Of the size and general appearance of small specimens of *E. fumatus* (which also occurs on Mount Kosciuszko), but eyes much smaller, subsutural granules much more conspicuous, and less of the head clothed. The forehead is slightly sinuous, and so, in the 1913 table of the genus, the species could be associated with *E. athyrus*, which is a larger one, with much stronger femoral dentition, and very different elytra; but regarding it as belonging to G. of that table, it could be associated with *E. stenocerus*, which is a narrower species, without conspicuous sutural granules. The prothorax is more transverse than is usual in the genus. There are some feeble clusters of dark scales or short setae on the prothorax and elytra, but the fascicles they form are ill-defined; the largest on each elytron is on the third interstice about the middle. There are eight granules on each side of the suture, but they are not placed symmetrically; the basal one on the left side is rather large. Both middle legs are missing from the type, but the others are not very distinctive.

On this and all the following species the mesosternal receptacle, although elevated above the adjacent parts (the insects viewed on their backs) is not abruptly so, although its upward slope is rapid.

EXTITUS CARNICOLLIS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Sparsely clothed.

Head with forehead sinuous in front, bald behind. Eyes rather small. Rostrum more strongly curved than is usual in genus, the length of prothorax; with coarse, crowded punctures to apical third, where they are smaller and the surface is shining. Antennae inserted one-third from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax almost as long as wide, sides strongly rounded;

with coarse, crowded punctures and a distinct carina in middle. Scutellum absent. Elytra feebly trisinate at base, sides rather strongly rounded and widest across middle; with rows of large, irregular punctures, the interstices separately convex, the alternate ones slightly elevated and irregular, the marginal one shining and impunctate. Under-surface with coarse, crowded punctures; two basal segments of abdomen large and depressed in middle. Legs rather long, femora grooved and moderately dentate, tibiae bisinuate on lower surface. Length, 3.0-3.2 mm.

♀ Differs in being more robust, rostrum less curved, with smaller punctures (but rather large and well-defined throughout and dense even at apex), antennae inserted not quite as close to apex of rostrum, and two basal segments of abdomen rather strongly convex.

Victoria: Warburton, from fallen leaves, in January (F. E. Wilson); Evelyn (C. Oke).

In the 1913 table of the genus could be associated with *E. stenocerus*, which is a larger species; with very different elytra. Each of the three specimens before me (two males and one female) is rather dirty and somewhat abraded; true scales are sparse and inconspicuous on the upper-surface, but from the sides sloping setae are evident, on the elytra they are mostly black and condensed on numerous slight swellings: on the pronotum of the female many of the setae are white, and appear to form six loose fascicles, but these are not evident on the males. Of the males the type has a conspicuous strip of reddish setae on the apical fourth of the suture and a short, whitish vitta on each elytron at the base, half-way between the suture and side; on a second male (returned to Mr. Oke) the suture is without special clothing, and the basal vittae of the elytra are larger and conspicuously reddish. On the head the clothing is of a rusty-red on two specimens, greyish on the other. The carina of the pronotum is about as long as the prothorax is wide, at its subapical constriction. On the males the slight swellings on the alternate interstices, combined with their clothing, cause some of them to appear transversely connected, giving the surface an appearance as of having large depressions like foveae, or of having long and deep punctures; on the female the surface is more uniform.

EXTITHIUS INSULARIS sp. nov.

Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with rusty-brown scales and setae.

Head with forehead bald, densely punctate, and slightly sinuous in front. Eyes not very large, and more convex than usual in genus. Rostrum moderately curved, the length of prothorax, sides gently incurved to middle; basal

third with scales concealed by clothing, elsewhere with crowded and moderately coarse punctures, becoming smaller in front. Antennae inserted slightly nearer apex than base of rostrum, scape slightly shorter than funicle, two basal joints of the latter elongate. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about two-thirds the width of base; with crowded, concealed punctures. Scutellum scarcely visible. Elytra elliptic-ovate, sides rounded and widest slightly beyond the middle, base moderately trisinate; with rows of large, setiferous punctures, appearing smaller through clothing; interstices tuberculate or subtuberculate beneath fascicles, outer margin narrowly polished. Abdomen with crowded punctures; two basal segments large, the first feebly depressed in middle, its suture with second distinct at sides but obsolete in middle. Legs moderately long, femora feebly grooved and very feebly dentate, front tibiae with outer edge incurved to middle, middle ones angular near outer base, the hind ones straight except for basal curve. Length, 6 mm.

Tasmania: Adventure Bay on Brunni Island (A. Bovie); unique.

The trisinnation of the forehead is faint, but regarding the species as belonging to EE. of the 1913 table of the genus, it differs from *E. megapholus* in the much smaller scales, and from *E. athyreus* by its smaller size and very different elytra. Disregarding the forehead, it could be associated with *E. inamabilis* and *brevis*, each of which is a smaller and wider species, with darker clothing. In general appearance it resembles *E. ferrugineus*, but the scutellum is absent, and the shoulders are less conspicuous. The clothing is of almost uniform colour throughout, although some of the setae on the legs are whitish. On the pronotum there are six feeble fascicles in the usual positions. On the elytra the fascicles are fairly numerous on the odd interstices, and sparser on the even ones; the largest is on the third at the summit of the apical slope. The sex of the type is doubtful; by its abdomen it appears to be a male.

EXITHIUS EPISTERNALIS sp. nov.

Black, antennae (club somewhat darker than scape and funicle) and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with rusty-brown and blackish scales and setae, most of the fascicles black.

Head with basal half bald and with crowded punctures. Rostrum moderately curved, the length of prothorax, basal half clothed, but with three fairly distinct ridges, elsewhere with crowded punctures, and with a feeble, shining median line. Antennae inserted about two-fifths from apex of rostrum, scape shorter than funicle. Prothorax distinctly transverse, sides strongly rounded; with crowded, partly concealed punctures. Scutellum absent. Elytra oblong-ovate, sides subparallel to beyond the middle; with rows of large punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing; fascicles supported on feeble

tubercles, margins not polished, a few sutural granules towards base. Under-surface with crowded punctures, two basal segments of abdomen large, the first with apex rather strongly incurved to middle. Femora stout, grooved, and moderately dentate; tibiae bisinuate on lower surface, the middle ones less noticeably than the others. Length, 5 mm.

Victoria: Belgrave and Noble Park (P. E. Wilson).

The metasternal episterna are thin but traceable throughout, an aberrant but not unique feature in *Exithius*. The femoral teeth are sufficiently large to entitle the species to be considered as belonging to J, in the 1913 table of the genus; of the species there noted *E. tenebrosus* is larger, with a stouter rostrum and the interstices on each side of the elytral suture thickened and shining at the base; from *E. obscurus* (which has very similar episterna) it differs in being smaller, with more numerous and evenly distributed fasciculate tubercles on elytra (almost as numerous as on *Microporopterus tumulosus*), with a few sutural granules, and rostrum more distinctly ridged. On the type the basal segment of abdomen is gently depressed in the middle; on a second specimen it is flat there; the rostrum is alike on both, and judging by it they are probably both males; the antennae, however, are inserted rather more distant from its apex than is usual in males. There are six feeble fascicles on the pronotum in the usual positions, the outer one of the subapical series is brown, there is also a small brown spot at the middle of the base; there are about twenty small fascicles on each elytron, more numerous on the odd than on the even interstices. The bald part of the head is normally concealed by the prothorax.

EXITHIUS PULLATUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and claw-joints dull reddish. Densely clothed with dark brown and sooty scales and setae.

Head with basal half (normally concealed by prothorax) bald and with crowded punctures. Eyes rather small. Rostrum moderately curved, slightly shorter than prothorax, sides incurved to middle, and notched on each side of base; basal half densely clothed, elsewhere with crowded and rather coarse punctures. Antennae inserted slightly nearer apex than base of rostrum, scape shorter than funicle. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base; with crowded punctures more or less concealed by clothing. Scutellum absent. Elytra oblong-ovate, sides subparallel to beyond the middle, base trisinate; with rows of large punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing; a few small granules near suture. Under-surface with crowded but mostly concealed punctures, two basal segments of abdomen large, the first flat in middle. Femora stout, feebly grooved, and (especially the middle and hind ones) feebly dentate. Length, 4.3-4.5 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly longer, less clothed, antennae inserted further from apex of rostrum, and two basal segments of abdomen gently convex.

Victoria: Evelyn, in June (C. Oke).

In general appearance close to *E. fumatus*, but average size consistently smaller; the incurvature of the outer edge of the tibiae is much the same. Also smaller than *E. simulator*, and trisinuation of base of elytra pronounced, and prothoracic clothing less variegated. Structurally close to *E. loculosus*, but slightly narrower, and base of elytra more noticeably trisinuate. The femoral teeth are small and traceable with difficulty (but the front ones are more distinct than the others), so the species, in the 1913 table of the genus, could be associated with *E. inamabilis* and *brevis*: the former has less parallel-sided elytra with fewer fasciculate tubercles, the latter is even more compact, with punctures of two basal segments of abdomen distinctly larger and less crowded. All the setae and fascicles on the upper-surface are black; most of the scales are also black, but some are dark brown or ashen; on the sides of the mesosternum, metasternum, and basal segments of abdomen most of the scales are brownish. The setae on the pronotum are compacted to form four irregular lines from base to apex, rather than loose fascicles, but many are scattered singly. There are many fascicles supported by small tubercles on the elytra, more on the odd than on the even interstices; but none conspicuously larger than the others; from some directions they appear to be placed in oblique rows. A specimen from Millgrove (in December, F. E. Wilson) appears to be a female of this species, but differs in having scarcely visible femoral teeth, and elytral fascicles more uneven, two on the third interstice (one near base and one crowning the apical slope) being larger than the others. A male from Ringwood (in June, F. E. Wilson) appears also to belong to the species, but is too much abraded for certainty.

EXITIUS TRICARINATUS Lea.

A specimen from an elevation of 5,000 feet on Mount Kosciuszko evidently belongs to this species, but is less densely clothed than the type (probably due to abrasion), and with the polished margin of each elytron somewhat wider. Mr. F. E. Wilson has a specimen from Lorne (Victoria), also evidently belonging to the species, but with the fascicles more pronounced.

EXITIUS OBLIQUUS Lea.

Two specimens, from Barrington Tops (New South Wales), evidently belong to this species, but are without the latero-basal black markings on the pronotum of the type (on several others these are ill-defined or absent); the oblique rows

of fascicles on the elytra ending near the suture, at the summit of the apical slope, are as on the type, but behind them, except about the apex itself, the scales are sooty-black, and in front of them the pale scales cover a larger area than on the type.

OPHRYTHEREOCIS FASCICULATUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish, apex of rostrum obscurely diluted with red. Densely clothed with variegated scales and setae.

Head with base bald and densely punctate, but normally concealed by prothorax; forehead sinuous. Eyes small. Rostrum moderately curved, slightly shorter than prothorax, sides incurved to middle; with crowded punctures on apical half, concealed by clothing elsewhere. Antennae inserted about one-third from apex of rostrum. Prothorax almost as long as wide, sides strongly rounded, apex scarcely half the width of base; punctures normally concealed. Scutellum conspicuously elevated and of a waxy appearance. Elytra about twice the length of prothorax and scarcely wider at base (which is almost truncate), sides strongly rounded and widest at basal third; with rows of large, deep punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing, tuberculate beneath fascicles. Basal segment of abdomen large, slightly flattened in middle. Femora feebly grooved and scarcely visibly dentate; tibiae gently incurved to middle on outer edge. Length, 2.5–3.0 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum longer, thinner, clothed only near base, antennae inserted two-fifths from apex of rostrum and basal segment of abdomen convex.

Victoria: Belgrave, in ferns and leaf debris in January (F. E. Wilson), in April (C. Oke and Wilson); Evelyn (Oke).

Readily distinguished from all previously described species by the fascicles at summit of the apical slope, but the following species resembles it in this respect, although not in others. The eyes are almost as prominent as on *O. ceophthalmus*. The type is in perfect condition, and is densely clothed with scales and setae varying from almost white, through shades of rusty-brown, to black; on the pronotum, about half of the scales are greyish-white, and there are six loose fascicles in the usual positions; on the elytra most of the scales are rusty, but there are some blackish ones near the base, and others near the apex; there are numerous small fascicles, but two large ones near the suture crowning the apical slope; the legs are conspicuously variegated. A female is similarly clothed, except that the black scales and setae on the elytra are less numerous, and the legs are less variegated. Three other males and one female differ from the types in having the clothing much less variegated, being mostly of a muddy-grey, variegated with dingy-brown and with a few dark setae; the fascicles

crowning the apical slope are distinct on all of them, and there are usually small basal fascicles; on two of the males the suture on the apical slope is conspicuously whitish; another female is still dingier, its clothing being almost uniformly muddy-grey; but the differences are probably due to partial abrasion and to a slight amount of mud, which so commonly adheres to specimens taken from fallen leaves. The rostrum has a shining median line, that is longer and more distinct on the female than on the male. The femoral teeth are so minute that the femora might fairly be regarded as edentate.

OPHRYTHYREOCIS VIGILANS sp. nov.

Black, antennae and tarsi obscurely reddish. Densely clothed with rusty-brown scales and setae, infuscated on each side of base of prothorax and on part of apical slope.

Head with base concealed but forehead not sinuous. Eyes comparatively large and round. Rostrum moderately curved, slightly longer than prothorax, rather more than basal third squamose, elsewhere shining and with small but distinct punctures. Antennae inserted two-fifths from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about three-fourths the width of base; with a feeble median line and crowded, concealed punctures. Scutellum conspicuous, with a waxen coating. Elytra with base (except for scutellar incurvature) almost truncate, shoulders not clasping prothorax, sides rounded and widest just before middle; with large punctures, appearing much smaller through clothing, tuberculate beneath fascicles. Two basal segments of abdomen large and evenly convex. Metasternal episterna narrow but distinct. Femora feebly grooved and edentate, tibiae straight except at base. Length, 5–6 mm.

Western Australia: Manjemp (H. J. Carter), Pemberton (Dr. E. W. Ferguson).

With the conspicuously elevated scutellum of *Ophrythyreocis*, but the eyes are larger than usual and the mesosternal receptacle is almost open. The setae are sloping and numerous on the upper-surface, and dense on the legs; but on three specimens the suture is glabrous at the base, on a fourth it is sparsely clothed there. There are six fascicles on the prothorax in the usual positions, the two apical ones being rather feeble; on each elytron there are three fascicles on the third interstice, of which the third is slightly larger than the others, and crowns the apical slope; there are three somewhat smaller ones on the fifth, and five or six still smaller ones on the seventh; in addition there are some even smaller ones scattered about, especially on the apical slope. The four specimens examined appear to be all females.

OPURYTHYREOCIS NIGER sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae pale red, tarsi darker. Densely clothed with sooty scales and setae.

Head bald, and with crowded, concealed punctures on basal half; forehead sinuous in front. Eyes small. Rostrum moderately curved, about the length of prothorax, clothed to antennae; in front with crowded and rather coarse punctures. Scape inserted one-third from apex of rostrum, the length of funicle. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base; with large, crowded punctures. Scutellum distinct. Elytra about twice the length of prothorax, base almost truncate, sides rather strongly rounded and widest about middle; with rows of large, partly concealed punctures; interstices in places subtuberculate, each marginal one polished. Two basal segments of abdomen large, flattened in middle; with large, crowded punctures. Femora shallowly grooved, and very feebly dentate, tibiae gently bisinuate on lower surface. Length, 3.0–3.5 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum somewhat longer and thinner, less of the base clothed, with a shining median line, antennae inserted less close to apex of rostrum, and two basal segments of abdomen gently convex.

South Australia: Mount Lofty Ranges, in tussocks (N. B. Tindale), in October (F. E. Wilson).

Distinct from all the previously named species by the sombre clothing. On two of the five specimens before me some of the scales and setae on the head and prothorax are ashen-grey, but on the others they are all black; the setae are clavate and sloping or gently curved, they do not form distinct fascicles, but in places are loosely compacted. They appear to be all somewhat abraded, but the waxy coating of the scutellum is in good condition.

OPURYTHYREOCIS ALTERNATUS sp. nov.

♂ Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with rusty-brown and black scales and setae.

Head with concealed basal fourth glabrous, and with dense punctures, forehead almost evenly curved. Eyes small. Rostrum rather stout and moderately curved, scarcely the length of prothorax, clothed almost to apex. Antennae inserted one-third from apex of rostrum, scape the length of funicle. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base; with crowded, partly concealed punctures. Scutellum small but distinctly elevated, with a waxy coating. Elytra elliptic-ovate, not much more than twice the length of prothorax, sides gently rounded and widest at basal fourth, base gently incurved between scutellum and shoulders, which slightly clasp the prothorax; with rows of large, deep, partly concealed punctures. Under-surface

with crowded and moderately long punctures; two basal segments of abdomen large, the first gently concave in middle. Femora feebly grooved and feebly dentate, tibiae gently bisinuate on lower edge. Length, 4.5–5.0 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly longer, thinner, less curved, and with punctures not concealed, except on basal third, antennae inserted slightly more distant from apex and two basal segments of abdomen evenly convex.

New South Wales: Rule's Point, in February (H. J. Carter).

The general appearance is like that of *O. cyclothyrus*, but on that species the shoulders do not clasp the prothorax, and the scutellum is somewhat larger. It is like *O. ferrugineus*, on an enlarged scale. *O. valrus* is slightly larger, with the front tibiae more incurved, etc. It is of the size and general appearance of *Achopera alternata*, but the special clothing of the alternate interstices is on the even instead of the odd ones, and the scutellum and many other parts are different. On the upper-surface and legs the black scales and setae form numerous small spots; the setae are rather short, stout, and suberect, on the elytra (except about base and apex) they are confined to the even interstices, on which they are crowded, or in irregular double rows.

OPURYTHYREOCIS TRIBALIS sp. nov.

Obscurely reddish-brown, antennae paler. Densely clothed with pale and rusty-brown scales and setae, variegated with dark brown ones.

Eyes of moderate size. Rostrum gently curved, slightly shorter than prothorax, punctures concealed only near base, rather coarse and sublineate in arrangement behind antennae, crowded and smaller in front, but with a shining median line almost throughout. Antennae inserted two-fifths from apex of rostrum, scape slightly shorter than funicle, first joint of the latter almost twice the length of second. Prothorax slightly shorter than wide, sides strongly rounded, apex about half the width of base; with crowded, partly concealed punctures. Scutellum small but distinctly elevated, with a waxy coating. Elytra subovate, about twice the length of prothorax, base truncate, sides strongly rounded and widest at basal third; with large, partly concealed punctures; outer margins polished. Under-surface with crowded punctures; two basal segments of abdomen large and gently convex. Middle and hind femora feebly dentate, the front ones edentate. Length, 3.5 mm.

Victoria: Fern Tree Gully, from moss, in April (F. E. Wilson).

With the general appearance of *O. ferrugineus*, but without the spots of black scales; it is, however, very distinct by the mesosternal receptacle being U-shaped, scarcely elevated, and with thin walls; on *ferrugineus* it is noticeably elevated (with the insect on its back), with a median ridge. In general appearance is still nearer to *O. exophthalmus*, but the eyes are larger and much

less prominent, the mesosternal receptacle is longer and with thinner walls. In my table of the genus ⁽⁶⁾ it could be associated with *O. microps*, which is a smaller species, with muddy-brown clothing and smaller eyes. The type is probably immature, as on all other species the derm is black. The setae on the prothorax are loosely compacted, and may be considered as forming six feeble fascicles in the usual positions; on the elytra there are numerous loose fascicles, irregularly distributed, but more than half of them are composed of dark setae. On the type (which appears to be a female) the base of the head is concealed by the overlapping prothorax. The tibiae are gently incurved to middle on the upper edge, but appear rather strongly so, as the setae are subfasciculate at the base and apex.

OPHRYTHYREOCIS CYCLOTIREUS Lea (formerly *Exithius*).

On this species the scutellum has a waxy-looking coating, and is elevated above the adjacent parts; it was overlooked when the genus *Ophrythyreocis* was named, but I think should be referred to it. Its forehead is not sinuous, the elytra are thrice the length of the prothorax, and the third and fourth segments of abdomen are not below the level of the fifth; but these characters are of less importance than the scutellum.

OPHRYTHYREOCIS MICRIPS Lea.

The type of this species is a female from an unknown locality. Mr. F. E. Wilson has recently taken several specimens on the Bogong Plains (Victoria), in January, at an elevation between 5,000 and 6,000 feet. They are all slightly larger than the type, varying from 2.8 to 3.0 mm. The male differs from the female in having the rostrum shorter and wider, clothed to beyond the middle, with punctures on the naked portion coarser, and antennae inserted somewhat nearer the apex. The species is somewhat smaller than *O. niger*, with rusty clothing and prothoracic punctures smaller; it is less brightly clothed than *O. tibialis*, and with smaller eyes.

ROITOPERUS LISSORHINUS sp. nov.

Dark brown, rostrum and tarsi reddish, antennae paler. Densely clothed with light brown, feebly variegated scales; and with stiff setae, forming fascicles on the tubercles.

Rostrum about the length of prothorax, rather wide, feebly enrvd, basal fourth squamose, elsewhere highly polished and with minute punctures. Antennae inserted about one-third from base of rostrum. Prothorax longer than wide, sides rounded and widest across middle, with feeble tubercular elevations

⁽⁶⁾ Lea, Trans. Roy. Soc., S. Aust., 1913, p. 246.

across middle and near base; with crowded punctures. Elytra elongate-cordate, base trisinnate, the sinus near each shoulder for the reception of a basal angle of prothorax, greatest width slightly before the middle, which is almost twice the width of base of prothorax; strongly striate-punctate, odd interstices tuberculate. Femora edentate. Length, 3 mm.

Tasmania: Cradle Mountain, in moss (A. M. Lea); unique.

Fairly close to *R. bryophilus*, but prothorax narrower and tubercles differently placed. The scape and basal half of funicle are almost flavous. From directly above the setae (except on the tubercles) are inconspicuous, but they are distinct from the sides. The base of the head is shining and finely, transversely striated (for stridulation), but would be concealed on "set" specimens. The prothoracic tubercles are very feeble, and could fairly be regarded as but slight inequalities of the surface; on the elytra they are more distinct, there are three on the third interstice: one near base, one (the only one crowned with black setae) just before middle, and the third half-way between the second and apex: two smaller ones on the fifth interstice, and three on the seventh; but there are other slight inequalities of the interstices. The type appears to be a female.

ROPTOPERUS CARINATUS sp. nov.

♂ Dark brown, glabrous part of rostrum, antennae and tarsi almost flavous. Densely clothed with pale muddy-brown scales, interspersed with setae.

Rostrum slightly shorter than prothorax, moderately wide, slightly curved, apical third polished and with small punctures, elsewhere densely clothed. Antennae inserted slightly nearer base than apex of rostrum. Prothorax slightly shorter than the basal width, which is less than that of middle, with two slight inequalities at apex, four across middle and four near base; with crowded, partly concealed punctures. Elytra distinctly wider than prothorax at base, shoulders rounded off, greatest width before the middle; with numerous small tubercles, of which the largest are on the third interstice, each shoulder with a shining carina (invisible from above) half the length of prothorax; irregularly striate-punctate. Femora stout, edentate. Length, 3.0–3.5 mm.

♀ Differs in having the rostrum slightly longer, thinner, more curved, clothed only on basal third, antennae inserted nearer base of rostrum, and abdomen more convex.

Victoria: Millgrove, in January; Warburton, in January and March; and Ferntree Gully, in July, all from moss (F. E. Wilson).

A compact species, readily distinguished from all others of the genus by the carina on each shoulder; this, however, could be easily overlooked unless the sides are viewed at right angles.